Christmas Shoppers Expected to Spend \$200,000,000 for Gifts.

RECORD HOLIDAY SEASON

Flush Times in New York Make Liberal Spenders of Citizens.

The department stores of Manhattan are experiencing the greatest Christma business rush that veteran merchants can recall. Flush times are pouring into the caravanseries of the retail trade a tremendous volume of cash. It is scarcely necessary for salesmen and leswomen to employ the usual artifices to interest customers. They merely

even extravagantly, without finical re- price of coal.

No Time for Details.

"We can recall Christmas seasons when myers did their shopping with a sort of Scotch carefulness," said the manager of one of the six or seven biggest departance and the advisability of undertaking ment stores in Manhattan yesterday.
"But this year it strikes us that people land, Kansas City and elsewhere is be-

From this manager and others of simliar position it was learned that the coal, which is believed to have been afwomen of New York seem to be spending at least 30 per cent. more this Christmas than in former holiday seasons. Shops tors apparently have found no business them, or more accurately speaking were than on any cure that may be afforded more within their means, only specially by Government litigation, according to now acceptable. More costly and the experts, now acceptable. More costly articles of jewelry, of wearing apparel, including most expensive furs, are being sold season than ever before.

"If the names of customers that are spending anywhere from \$1,000 to \$5,000 framing a measure which he will introdepartment store. "I would say roughly
that we have twice as many customers
of this class as we had last year. There
is also a tremendous increase in the
guidest of moderate spenders. We find, we think, that the character and volume of the shepping pretty accurately represent the present war propherity. Some of us would what will happen when the war ends and the great demand abroad for American products ceases and purchasing power here is reduced. However, we give thanks for the spending craze that is now with us."

A pleasant side of the accelerated business has to do with the children. Undoubtedly the kiddles of New York are going to have the finest Christmas in many years. A visit to any one of the marvellous toy rooms of the larger department stores—vast rooms where every dream of childbood has been made to come true—confirms that impression.

to come true—confirms that impression The manager of one of these toy depart ments snatched a moment from the rush to say that he had never seen anything like the volume of this year's trade in toys—that the shops were simply swamped. Half an hour in one or two of these delightful showrooms left on stather breathless. The surge was terrific.

Good Time for Children.

Chiliren were squealing with laughter as they clustered around Santa Claus himself and rushed in bevies to this or that wonderful display. Half an hour in the toy room of any department store may be counted on to wipe away the worst grouch that ever existed. The veriest old Scrooge would absorb real Christmas spirit in such atmosphere.

Professional shoppers—those shrewd. Christmas spirit in such atmosphere.

Professional shoppers—those shrewd. alert women that make a business of buying for the well to do people that wish to avoid the hard labor and annoyances of shopping in the rush season—are just about worked "to death," as they put it. They have more clients, most of them at least, than they can well take care of. One professional shopper displayed forty lists that had been left with her in the past day or two, and estimated that the total money to be spent for the articles comprised in the lists would amount to about \$30,000. Another confessed that she would have to put herself in a physician's care after the rush, "for I'll be worn to a whisper," she said. Relatively there are only a few of these substitutes. A glance in any of the big shops assures one, of course, that most people are doing their own shopping and getting a lot of pleasure out of it, too. It was amusing to note that many men who professed to be "drassed" into the shops, and who went about for a time with bored and be "dragged" into the shops, and who went about for a time with bored and weary faces, caught the excitement and fun of it after a time and in some cases had to be "dragged" out of the fasci-nating places by their womenfolk. For the women, of course, the season is shopping fun raised to the ath power, es-pecially since money is plentiful and they can really buy instead of pricing and sliving.

150,000 Persons a Day.

The head of one of the very largest stores in Manhattan informed a reporter for Ties Sun yester by that about 150,000 persons are visited. 150,000 persons are visiting his store every day—have been since December 1

and will continue to do so until Christ-Man Day. "I don't say that all of these persons buy," he remarked, "but I assume that most of them do; that most of them spend an average of, say, \$5 a day. There are six or seven other shops main-tained on the scale of ours and I've no

might conclude that 2,000,000 persons are shopping in Manhattan every day. Of course, very many of these revisit the same store often and are counted as among visitors to other stores. It is difficult to estimate what they will spend, but one might say \$200,000,000 easily.

"Personally I don't doubt that the total will be somewhere around that figure. Of course that does not mean that New Torkers are spending all of this money, or that the \$200,000,000 represents presents for people within this great city. An immense number of persons are here from other countries, and a vast amount of articles will go all over the United States. It would be interesting if we could have a sort of Christmas clearing house to work out the exact statistics. All we know for a fact is that the season is a whopper." fact is that the season is a whopper.

2 U. S. GRAND JURIES IN FOOD COST PROBE

Attorney-General Orders Federal Inquiries Here and in Detroit.

gard for the increased cost of necessaries or luxuries; the eagerness of women, particularly, to leave their money in the big Fifth avenue shops where only the most expensive articles are dealt in; the quite casual manner with which men are buying the costlication of presents at prices that would have of presents at prices that would have daunted them some years ago or even last year, and the tremendous demand for the better kind of children's toys.

Indications were forthcoming to-day Mr. Bryan is the leader, wants prohibition made immediately a political issue and its cause espoused in every state by the Democratic party. This be brought against combinations of food speculators. At the Department of Justice to-night stress was laid on the fact that existing conditions are due to economic causes very largely if not entirely, and that the field for governing to-day Mr. Bryan is the leader, wants prohibition made immediately a political issue and its cause espoused in every state by the Democratic party. This latter faction hopes to win over the other faction.

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The prohibition made immediately a political issue and its cause espoused in every state by the Democratic party. This latter faction hopes to win over the other faction. mental activity in bringing speculators hibition laws, to book for violation of existing laws also about to

Other U. S. Probes Considered.

that make a specialty of supplying involving living necessities which remade to order" articles note that the women are buying more of this kind of commodity than ever before. Where standard stock goods formerly contented them, or more accurately speaking were than on any cure that may be afforded by Government litigation, according to

RUN ON "DRY" ISSUE

Continued from First Page.

from the masthead of his newspaper and not be taken down until 1908. His remarks left a very plain inference that he believed Mr. Bryan was the logical can didate for 1920. Mr. Bailey to-day ex-pressed the opinion personally that Mr. Bryan would be nominated, but ad-mitted he had not yet floated his name from the masthead of his newspaper.

pacifist coterie in Congress at

resentative Tavenner, Illinois, who was defeated for reelection, is outspoken in his advocacy of Mr. Bryan for President. Senator Vardaman, Mississippi, has always been a Bryan admirer and he believes that Mr. Bryan will be a formidable candidate. Representative Stephens, Nebraska, is Mr. Bryan's principal backer in his own State. Friends of Mr. Bryan in Congress ventured to predict to-day that Mr. Bryan would be able to control the delegation from his own State, and in support of this prediction cited the fact that he had forced prohibition on his party in that State and had accomplished other matters over strong party opposition.

to interest customers. They merely stand and take the money that is thrust upon them. It is a record season for shopping.

A reporter for The Sun who visited many of the thirty-five large department stores yesterday found practically the same reply wherever he put the question: "How does the volume of Christmas business this year compare with the ranked of former years?" Everywhere the snewer was: "It is at least 25 per cent. Some of the general characteristics of the 1916 Christmas rush, as noted by department store managers, are the disposition of the public to spend liberally, even extravagantly, without finical regard for the increased cost of necessary.

Washington, Dec. 9.—After a conference determined a complished other matters over strong party opposition. The plan which it is believed Mr. Bryan's friends, consuiting covertly with their leader, will follow in the next year or two will be to revive the old West-ern organization which Bryan once had and to line up with it the Prohibitionists. There are two factions believes in keeping prohibition in the middle West and will leave for that city to-more was: "It is at least 25 per cent. Some of the general characteristics of the 1916 Christmas rush, as noted by department store managers, are the disposition of the public to spend liberally, even extravagantly, without finical regard for the increased cost of necessary in the profit of the public to spend liberally. Indications were forthcoming to-day and to line up with it the Prohibitionists. There are two factions had accomplished other matters over strong party opposition. The plan which it is believed Mr. Bryan's friends, consulting covertity with their leader, will follow in the next year or two will be to revive the old West-ern organization which is or two will be to revive the old West-ern organization which is an and to line up with it the Prohibitionists. There are two factions, how-ever, among the Prohibitionists. One faction believes in keeping prohibition and accomplished of the river of the Ne

other faction.

There are twenty-four States now "dry" and two more are about to be added—Utah and Florida—the legislators of which are pledged to pass prohibition laws. The prohibitionists are also about to start a drive on Indiana and Kentucky. This will make a formidable list of dry States and Mr. Bryan and his friends think the delegates from these States in a national Nevertheless, the Government will gates from these States in a national

Would Split G. O. P.

ment stores in Manhattan yesterday. Grand Jury inquiries in Chicago, Cleve"But this year it strikes us that people have so much money to spend that they are simply not bothering their heads shout the fine points of buying, about travelling from this shop to that to see fi they can't save a few cents or a few dollars on this or that desired article. Mr. Anderson conference at length today with the Secretary of Agriculture and there were several conferences at the Department of Justice in which the dollars on this or that desired article. Attorney-General, his assistant, S. Carficials of the Department participated. The order to go ahead with the Grand Jury inquiries in Chicago, Cleveland, Kansas City and elsewhere is beland, Kansas City and as a very small increase when the spread of the prohibition wave is considered. It is in strong contrast to the increase of the Socialist vote.

To amalgamate the Prohibition and

Democratic parties, as Bryan did the Populist and Democratic parties in his first battle, will not add materially to the Democratic strength. But Mr. Bryan is believed to be counting on splitting the Republican party on this

by Government litigation, according to the experts.

Cold Storage Issue Discussed.

The cold storage phase of the problem was discussed at some length by the Secretary of Agriculture and Mr. Anderson to-day. Representative Emerson, Ohio, introduced in the House a measure designed to prevent the holding of perishable food products for more than three months.

Representative Lenroot, Wisconsin, is Representativ It was recalled to-day that Mr. Bryan

BITH AVENUE AT 57TH STREET.

Continuance of

ANNUAL SALE

Featuring

FINAL REDUCTIONS

EASHIONABLE FURS

Coats and Sets

Day and Evening Gowns,-from 35. Evening Wraps, - - - from 50.

Street and Motor Coats, - from 35. Hats, from 5.

French Movelties

Useful Gifts.

FIFTH AVENUE AT 57TH STREET.

60,000 READY TO STRIKE THIS WEEK

All Clothing Workers Here Expected to Be Out by Wednesday.

Sidney Hillman, president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers America, announced yesterday the selection of a sommittee of seven empowered to call a general strike of 60,000 clothing workers in this city early this week. He said the men were prepared to quit work on a half hour's notice, but that the date would not be announced in advance.

tice, but that the date would not be announced in advance.

Alexander Cohen, secretary and treasured of the New York joint board, predicted that some of the men will be called out to-morrow and that all will be idle by Wednesday.

In anticipation of the strike Hillman and Joseph Schlosaberg, general secretary of the Amalgamated, addressed a letter to Police Commissioner Woods requesting that he issue orders to the police to observe strict neutrality.

"Unfortunately, the police have not cooperated with us in our efforts to maintain peace during past strikes," said the letter. "The attitude of you and the department we know is neutral, but there are a number of policemen opposed to organized labor. Instead they are partial to the gangsters, the 'scabs' and strike breakers.

"Such favors would not bear and treasured for the seabs' and strike breakers."

sociation has voluntarily ordered an increase in the pay of the workers, both union and non-union, amounting to about \$8,000,000 a year. The assertion that the workers have not seen this increase is natural, as the increase does not go into effect until December 18.

"The walking delegate is opposed to any increase that includes non-union workers. Each July and January, on the eve of the busy season, he must call a strike in order to get new members and dues. They will of course tell the workers that this increase is a fake, and then when it goes into effect as it is scheduled to do they will say it was their efforts that procured it, and their jobs will be good for six months more."

FARMERS PROMISE PUBLIC 7 CENT MILK

Continued from First Page

known to the public, which is just now somewhat exercised and certainly in some cases justly exercised over methods used by speculators in food products to increase the cost of living." About 100 members of the Socialist party and representatives of civic bodies, of whom two-thirds were women, went to the City Hall yesterday to urse Mayor

Henry I. Slobodin, chairman of the delegation, said that poor people are suffering because of high prices of foodstuffs caused by "food pirates" and "bread usurers."

Urges City Ownership of Mines. Joseph D. Cannon of the Western Federation of Labor declared exorbitant prices are caused by the avarice of individuals and advocated the ownership of coal mines by the city. He pointed to the ownership by Evansville, Ind., of a coal mine and the sale of coal at \$2.58 a ton as indicating the feasibility of the scheme.

Miss Theresa Maskiel made an appea-

on behalf of women and children
Joseph A. Whitehorn, Assemblyman
elect in the Twenty-first district, said. strike breakers.

Joseph A. Whitehorn, Assemblyman effect in the Twenty-first district, said by you if you were awars of it. So we are asking that you issue a special order to the police of the city to be neutral in this contest. Every worker has been ordered to obey the orders of the general strike and picketing committees. Private armies of big corporations always cause trouble, as we have seen in Colorado, Bayonne, West Virginia, Michigan and other places where extensive strikes have been hald."

The clothing workers are demanding a ways increase of \$2 a week. A conference between three of their representing the manufacturers Friday resulted in a disagrant.

Joseph A. Whitehorn, Assemblyman effect in the Twenty-first district, said. "It is the duty of the Mayor to produce they are climinally of the Crops approaches the nor short of the crops approaches the nor the Twenty-first district, said. "It is the duty of the Mayor to produce they are climinally as much his duty to prevent a situation that will be faced with the signless of under the Twenty-first district, said. "It is the duty of the Mayor the Twenty-first district, said. "It is the duty of the Mayor the Twenty-first district, said. "It is the duty of the Mayor the Twenty-first district, said. "It is the duty of the Mayor the Twenty-first district, said. "It is the duty of the Mayor the Twenty-first district, said. "It is the duty of the Mayor the Twenty-first district, said. "It is the duty of the Mayor the Twenty-first district, said. "It is the duty of the Mayor the Twenty-first district, said. "It is the duty of the Mayor the Twenty-first district, said. "It is the duty of the Mayor the Twenty-first district, said. "It is the duty of the Mayor the Provided that to sake they are criminals but because they are criminals to the twenty-five provided. The bear crop approach and town the Health of the Colock in the morning at the colo that the color in the Coloc

will be glad to meet a committee to-merrow morning at 11 o'clock.

bouse next spring.

Therefore the workmen and their den, and to building operations are enclosed in an the Southland.

FRANKLIN SIMON ENTERTAINS.

Four Thousand Persons at An

Two thousand employees of the firm reception s ven by Franklin Simon & Co. last night in Central Opera House, 205 East Sixty-seventh street. There were nearly as many more guests.
It is the custom of Franklin Simon & Co. to engage vaudeville talent for the entertainment, but this year the Mutual Benefit Association, which had charge of the arrangements, found abundant talent in the store. There were clever skits, minstrels, songs and dances. Among those who had a part in these features of the entertainment were Thomas Mooney, Thomas Watson, Thomas A. Robertson, Mrs. M. O'Grady, Michel to do something to reduce the cost of living. They had not arranged for an audience with the Mayor and he was not on hand. Dr. Henry Mosko-witz, president of the Civil Service Commission, received the delegation in the Mayor's absence and introduced the meskers. Thomas Mooney, Thomas Watson, Thomas A. Robertson, Mrs. M. O'Grady, Edward Ward, Miss Rae Coelho, Joseph McKenna, Charles Geib, Edward Heine, Greg Patti, Edward Powers, Reuben Silber, Miss Flormers absence and introduced the meskers.

trude Haerting, Miss Nora Shea, Miss Margaret Jonap, Arthur Hanshe, Miss Edith Cahill and Harry Humphreys. Dancing followed the vaudeville sketches. Arthur J. Simon was floor director and was assisted by David Cronbach. The members of the en-tertainment committee were George Kassebart, Thomas Williams, Joseph Finnerty and Edward Laberty. Chair-Finnerty and Edward Laherty. Chair-men of other committees were Robert Leach, reception: Edward Ward, floor; John J. Barrett, door, and J. Langsley,

NEW PALM BEACH SCHEDULES.

Departure and Arrival at More Convenient Hours.

Miami at 9 o'clock in the morning, at Belleair at 7 and at St. Petersburg

Mayer Schoenfeld, labor adjuster of the American Clothing Manufacturers

Association, said yesterday:

"This war has created two important situations, among others, the high cost of living and a scarcity of labor. The association has voluntarily ordered an in
NEW LONDON, Conn., Dec. 9.—Neither will Flamingo carries a through sleeper to elect nor snow nor Arctic weather will Flamingo carries a through sleeper to impede the construction at Eastern Point of the summer home designed for Julius reached with only two nights on the Fleischmann, the Cincinnati millionaire. He is determined that the elements shall Mail and the Florida Cuba Special offer not interfere with the opening of his attractive service to middle South resorts, such as Southern Pines and Cam

> Whitman Sees Leaders Here. Gov. Whitman arrived in New York esterday and in the afternon was in

Republican leaders. He would say nothing of any of the matters discussed.

TRUCK FARMS SEND

Good Crops of Beans, Cabbage, Onion and Spinach Are Reported.

Here is good news for people who have a hankering, now and then, for the good old plebelan snap beans, cab- opened the fight upon mar bage, onions and spinach. The news is from the regions of the United States where winter truck crops are raised, for the application to second and it comes through the Department of matter of increased and in Agriculture. The report says that not stances prohibitive rates in only do these old fashioned adjuncts of with the parcel post zone sy a vegetable dinner still exist, but that they exist in profusion; that the crops are mighty good and that they are mov-

are mighty good and that they are moving rapidly to market.

Take the case of cabbage, for instance, produced in Florida, South Carolina, Texas, Alabama, Louisiana, California, Virginia and North Carolina. It is doing well. Its grade, as of December 1, ranges from 65 in Alabama, which is passing, to 101 on the southwest coast of Florida.

In each instance the acreage planted is larger than last year. It is much the same in the case of snap beans, cauliflower, cucumbers, lettuce, green peas, celery, kale, a variety of cabbage, strawberries, spinach and tomatoes. The condition of the crops approaches the normal and acreage is uniformly greater.

For the first 300 miles, at the rider, the rates on second ter will be the same as at a from that distance up to these potatoes are now being shipped to New York and the balance is being stored for winter use.

There is a noticeable decline in the spinach crop, due to the embargo on seed by the Holland Government. The acreage in the Norfolk district, according to the department's reports, is about 5,000, with an indicated yield of 550,000 harrels. This is a decrease from past times. It also approved an acreage is the same as at promiting the rider, the rates on second to rive in the rider, the rates of row in the rider, the rider, the rider, the rider, the rates of row in the rider, the rates of row in the rider, the

CLOSE LONG IS. CITY BRIDGE. Structure Over Newtown Creek to

Be Repaired To-day.

The roller lift bridge across Newtown Creek between Manhattan avenue in Greenpoint and Vernon avenue in Long Island City, will be closed to-day from 6 o'clock in the morning until 6 o'clock in the evening. During that time the bridge deposited in any will necessarily be considered to the main matter. rural delivery district the publican leaders. He would say nothwill undergo needed repairs.

NEW MAIL FIGHT ON-**OUT CHEERING NEWS** NEWSPAPERS BEGUN

Rider Would Boost Second Class Rates-One Cent for Local Letters.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 9 - The H.

Representative Randall, Cal approved by the Post Office and the practically without opposition, provides "That all newspapers, magazines and other publications, regularly admin-the mails as matter of the second a shall hereafter be subject to the faling rates of postage, the zone now applying to parcel post man adapted also to second class matter;
"Local, first, second and third zone
(under 300 miles). I cent per pound.
"Fourth zone, 300 to 600 miles, 2 cents

per pound. "Fifth zone, 600 to 1,000 mt "Sixth zone, 1,000

"Eighth zone, over 1,800 tion provided by law shall at present; and provided, fur no discrimination in rates on account of the

shall be permitted in the c 1.800 miles the rates increas

James McCreery & Co.

5th Avenue

34th Street

Enormous Stocks of New, Distinctive Furnishings for Men at Extraordinarily Low Prices

Gray Mocha Gloves

pair. 1.85

Men's Gloves of high grade Gray Mocha, perfectly made and durable. Plain, Black embroidered or spear backs. Regular and short finger sizes.

Holiday Gifts That Please Men

3,800 Silk Reefers

3.50 and 5.00

A splendid assortment of fine, closely knit Silk Reefers in Pearl Gray and White; also accordion weaves in a large variety of handsome color combinations, including Black and White

CHOICE SILK SCARFS

Silk Scarfs 95c

10.50 a dozen

Large open-end shapes. Domestic and Imported Silks and Satins in great variety.

Silk Scarfs 1.35

15.50 a dozen

Heavy, serviceable, Imported Silks and Satins in many new, striking patterns, both neat and

Silk Scarfs 1.95

Scarfs of the finest Swiss and

22.50 a dozen

English Silks in some of the richest patterns ever produced from the famous European silk looms. Beautiful tints and shades expertly blended to produce wonderfully harmonious color effects.

Silk Scarfs 1.65

19.00 a dozen

Large open-end Scarfs made of rich Imported Silks and Satins. Distinctive and exclusive designs in all colors.

Silk Scarfs

55c

"McCreery Special" Dependable dome-Silks that tie up in a graceful folds. mendous quantity variety, in stripe, figur plaid, brocade. Per and fancy patterns.

4,400 "McCREERY SILK SHIRTS"

"McCreery Silk Shirts"

3.25

Heavy Tub Silks, in a large variety of handsome striped patterns. Well made.

"McCreery Silk Shirts"

Heavy Broadcloth Silks and Crepes in

"McCreery Silk Shirts"

Fine quality, serviceable Silks and Crep in a large assortment of distinctive pattern-

2,500 LOUNGING ROBES AND JACKETS

Handsome Silk Robes in beautiful shades, with silk trimmings and girdle. Fine quality Cloth Robes in attractive colors, made with silk girdle cord and trimmings.

Home and Smoking Jackets

Velvet or Velveteen, 13.50 and 22.50 Cloth, 4.95 to 13.50. Various grades of serviceable Cloth, Velvet and Velveteen, well tailored and handsomely trimmed.

Woolen Blanket Cloths in various qualities, all heavy and serviceable; attractive patterns and trimmings.

MEN'S FURNISHING DEPT.

35th Street Entrance

12,500 PAIRS SILK HALF HOSE

Pure Thread Silk Half Hose with reinforced Lisle soles toes; in Black and a large assortment of colors.

Full-fashioned Half Hose with reinforced heels, soles and Black, White, Navy Blue, Gray, Champagne or Palm Beach.

Fine Black Silk Half Hose with White clox, and White Silk 1 Hose with Black clox; very neat effects.

Heavy Silks woven in distinctive two-tone effects,-various

beautiful colorings, bold or conservative.

4.95

exquisitely colored.

Silk Half Hose.....pair 75.

with neat narrow vertical colored stripes that blend harmonional

MAIN FLOOR